

REMARKS

Prior to this Amendment, claims 1-38 were pending in this patent application. The Office Action mailed June 22, 2005 indicated that:

- (1) The Abstract requires correction re: the word "means";
- (2) Claims 10-11; 16; and 26-27 were objected to but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims; and
- (3) Claims 1-9, 12-15; 17-25 and 28-38 were rejected on various grounds.

In response, the Applicants hereby amend the Abstract and amend the claims to overcome the objections to claims 10-11, 16, and 26-27, rewriting the appropriate claims in independent form including all limitations of the base claims and any intervening claims.

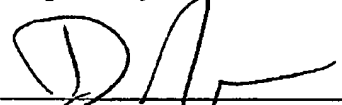
The Applicants hereby cancel the remaining claims without prejudice to pursue them in a continuation application, in order to place the currently pending application in condition for immediate allowance.

Applicant respectfully submits that all claims are in condition for allowance and that the application be allowed. Should questions arise, the Examiner is cordially invited to contact the undersigned.

Payment of Fees by Deposit Account: The USPTO is hereby authorized to charge any additional claim fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16(b), or any other required fee, or credit any overpayments, to the Gesmer Updegrove USPTO Deposit Account No. 122315.

Date: September 22, 2005

Respectfully submitted,



David A. Jacobs
Reg. No. 31,778
Gesmer Updegrove LLP
40 Broad Street
Boston, MA 02109
Tel: (617) 350-6800
Fax: (617) 350-6878